

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 25-32 were pending in the present application. The present response does not amend, cancel, or add any new claims, leaving pending in the application claims 25-32. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is respectfully requested.

I. Objection to the Abstract

The language of the Abstract is objected to as containing phrases which can be implied, such as "is disclosed," "includes," and "is provided." While Applicants do not necessarily agree with each of these objections, the Abstract has been amended for purposes of clarity and in order to expedite issuance of the pending claims. The amendment to the Abstract is not intended to alter the scope of the invention or be interpreted as a limitation on the claimed invention. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the objection be withdrawn.

II. Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 25-32 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-11 of U.S. Patent No. 6,261,853. Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with the rejection, a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) accompanies this response in order to expedite issuance of the pending claims. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that the rejection has been overcome.

III. Conclusion

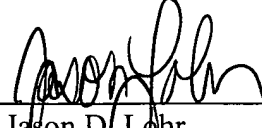
In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the pending claims and a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 50-1703, under Order No. TWI-8570. **A duplicate copy of the transmittal cover sheet attached to this Response to Office Action Mailed May 5, 2004, is provided herewith.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 2, 2004

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